REMARKS

This RCE Submission is responsive to the prior Final Office Action dated December 31, 2001. In that Office Action, claims 73-78 were allowed, while claims 72 and 79-80 were merely objected to as depending on a rejected base claims, but were otherwise allowable. By this Submission, claims 72 and 79 were re-written into independent form in order to place claims 72 and 79-80 into condition for allowance. Thus, claims 72-80 are now in condition for allowance.

The only remaining rejected claim is claim 71. Reconsideration of claim 71 is respectfully requested in view of the arguments below.

The Advisory Action

This Submission is also responsive to the Advisory Action dated April 10, 2002 (as discussed below). According to the Advisory Action, the Amendment After Final dated March 29, 2002 was NOT entered. It is apparent that the Examiner is procedurally incorrect. The amendments had nothing to do with the arguments made in the remarks to distinguish the single remaining art-rejected claim 71 over the prior art. The amendments merely placed the allowable claims into condition for allowance and should have been entered for purposes of appeal. Nevertheless, amendments to claims 72 and 79 are re-made in this Submission, superceding the March 29, 2002 Amendments After Final.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claim 71 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Choudhury et al. (USP 5,509,074) in view of Butter et al. (USP 5,381,480). The Office action stated that Choudhury et al. does not specifically disclose the re-encrypting of decrypted data using a second secret key, nor the above-claimed quoted feature. The Office action makes the reference to Butter et al. for disclosing the re-encryption of decrypted data using a second secret key for transferring the re-encrypted data to different sites or users. In the Advisory Action dated April 10, 2002, the Examiner further stated:

> The amendment raises new issues for further consideration in that Applicant argues that the prior art fails to teach "storing, copying or transferring said re-encrypted data and not said decrypted data". Examiner respectfully disagrees and submits that since the claim language is written in *alternative* language with respect to "storing, copying or transferring...", it is not necessary that the prior teach all three functions, only one. Thus, examiner submits that the application is not in condition for allowance.

In response, claim 71 was amended above. Amended claim 71 does not merely recite transferring of re-encrypted data. Instead, claim 71 recites "handling, storing, copying **and** transferring operations on the copyrighted data using said re-encrypted data and not said decrypted data." In other words, handling of all three operations of storing, copying and transferring on copyrighted data is limited to act only on re-encrypted data and not decrypted data. It is under such restrictions that a robust data copyright management can be secured.

In contrast, Butter et al. does not disclose or provide motivation directed to achieving data copyright management, and especially not by restricting storage, copying and transferring operations

to only re-encrypted data and not decrypted data. To one of ordinary skill in the art, Butter et al. does not limit storage or copying of copyrighted data. According to the disclosure of Butter et al., any user (authorized or not) can freely store or copy decrypted data. This is contrary to and **teaches away** from the present claimed invention. For at least these reasons, the only remaining rejected claim 71 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

The Drawings:

Formal copies of corrected Figure 10 and new Figure 11 are enclosed with this Amendment, as requested at item 4 on page 2 of the Final Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement:

An Information Disclosure Statement is concurrently filed with this Amendment, to submit additional prior art references by Best and McCarty respectively directed to the prior art common key system and data customization. These references are presented so that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record and appear on the first page of any patent issuing from the present application.

Summary

It is submitted that nothing in the prior art, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all the features recited in claim 71. Claims 73-78 were already allowed. Claims 72 and 79-80 were re-written into independent form and are now in condition for allowance. An early notice of allowance is earnestly requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**."

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully Submitted,
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Enclosures: Version with markings to show changes made

IN THE CLAIMS:

71. (Amended) A data copyright management method for managing the copyright of data comprising:

encrypting unencrypted copyright data using a first secret-key;

supplying the encrypted data to a primary user;

decrypting the encrypted data using said first secret-key;

displaying the decrypted data;

re-encrypting said decrypted data using a second secret-key; and

handling storing, copying ~~or~~ and transferring operations on the copyrighted data using said re-encrypted data and not said decrypted data.

72. (Twice Amended) A data copyright management method ~~according to claim 71,~~ ~~further~~ comprising:

encrypting unencrypted copyrighted data using a first secret-key;

supplying the encrypted data to a primary user;

decrypting the encrypted data using said first secret-key;

displaying the decrypted data;

re-encrypting said decrypted data using a second secret-key;

handling storing, copying and transferring operations on the copyrighted data using said re-encrypted data and not said decrypted data;

editing said decrypted data to produce unencrypted edited data;

encrypting the unencrypted edited data using said second secret-key; <u>and</u>

<u>handling</u> storing, copying ~~or~~ <u>and</u> transferring <u>operations on</u> said encrypted edited data and not the unencrypted edited data.

79. (Twice Amended) A data copyright management method ~~according to claim 71,~~

~~further~~ comprising:

adding copyright information to ~~said~~ unencrypted data; ~~, said encrypted data, said~~

~~decrypted data and said re-encrypted data~~

<u>encrypting said unencrypted copyrighted data using a first secret-key;</u>

<u>supplying the encrypted data having the copyright information to a primary user;</u>

<u>decrypting the encrypted data using said first secret-key to produce decrypted data having</u>

<u>the copyright information;</u>

<u>displaying the decrypted data;</u>

<u>re-encrypting said decrypted data using a second secret-key to produce re-encrypted data</u>

<u>having the copyright information; and</u>

<u>handling storing, copying and transferring operations on the copyrighted data using said</u>

<u>re-encrypted data and not said decrypted data.</u>